

- For Immediate Release - Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Southern Arizona DPS Officer remains in critical condition following on-duty traffic collision

Collision Information: Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 3:52 PM Interstate 10 Eastbound, near Milepost 357 (Safford Exit)

Updated Information:

This was a two vehicle injury collision involving a DPS patrol vehicle and a commercial vehicle which occurred yesterday on eastbound Interstate 10 at milepost 357 near the Safford exit. For an unknown reason the DPS vehicle was struck broadside on the passenger side by the commercial vehicle, trapping the officer in his vehicle for approximately one hour. The officer was extricated and transported to University Medical Center in Tucson by helicopter, where he was admitted to the ICU Unit in critical condition.

The injured Officer is 32-year-old Bobby Joe Wooley (DPS badge no. 6519). He has worked for DPS for two years. Prior to joining DPS, he worked for the Arizona Department of Corrections.

The investigation is on-going; therefore there is no additional information on what caused the commercial vehicle to collide with the DPS vehicle.

Eastbound Interstate 10 was closed for approximately 90 minutes following this collision. Once the injured had been transported, DPS was able to open the number one (high-speed) lane.

*Photo on separate attachment

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